



# Focus

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## **Derelict Vessel Grants**

### **Grants for the cleanup of hazardous substances on derelict and abandoned vessels.**

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House Bill 1349 added dealing with abandoned or derelict vessels to the list of eligible activities under the Remedial Action Grant Program. These grants assist local governments with the costs of hazardous substance removal and disposal aboard vessels when the substances cause a threat or potential threat to human health or the environment.

### **What is the definition of an abandoned or derelict vessel?**

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According to law “abandoned or derelict vessels” means vessels that have little or no value and either have no identified owner or have an identified owner lacking financial resources to clean up and dispose of the vessel. For the purposes of this grant program eligible vessels can be either recreational or commercial.

### **Who can apply for these grants?**

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Local governments that meet the eligibility requirements may apply for these grants. “Local government” is defined as any political subdivision, regional governmental unit, district, municipal or public corporation, including cities, towns, and counties.

### **How much money is available?**

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Ecology has budgeted \$500,000 for this grant program for the 2001-2003 funding cycle. There is a limit of \$25,000 per vessel. The grant recipient must provide a local match of cash expenditures, from 25 to 50 percent of the total eligible costs depending on economic status. In-kind contributions will not count as part of the required match.

### **When will Ecology accept applications?**

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Ecology is now accepting applications for derelict vessels under the Remedial Action Grant program. Applications will be accepted on an on-going basis.

## **What are the eligibility requirements?**

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Eligibility requirements include demonstration that the vessels meet the definition of “abandoned or derelict vessel” and that the local government can prove ownership of the vessel.

## **What project costs do these grants cover?**

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Eligible costs include:

- Removal and disposal of hazardous substances from abandoned and derelict vessels
- Transportation cost for the disposal of the hazardous substances
- Contractor fees
- Administration/project management fees
- Sampling and analysis
- Costs of disposal of materials in a permitted facility to accept hazardous waste (RCRA Subtitle C), if the vessel materials or components designate as hazardous waste per 173-303.

## **What costs are not eligible?**

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- Cost of hauling the vessel to the landfill
- Disposal of the vessel at sea
- Costs associated with the removal and disposal of solid waste materials
- Processing costs associated with the local government taking ownership of vessel

Note: If a grant recipient sells the vessel after cleanup and a profit is made after subtracting costs to obtain ownership, moorage facility operators costs, and selling expenses from the sales price, the grantee will remit to Department of Ecology a proportional share of the net proceeds equal to the grant percentage. The total amount due to Ecology shall not exceed Ecology’s share of the remediation expenses associated with the vessel.

## **For more information**

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Contact: Diane R. Singer, Grant Manager  
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***Ecology is an equal-opportunity agency. If you have special accommodation needs, contact Michelle Payne at (360) 407-6129 (Voice) or (360) 407-6006 (TDD).***